

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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TO SECSTATE 9982

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR UR

SUBJ: VE DAY CELEBRATION: SOVIET COVERAGE OF WESTERN ROLE

1. AS SOVIET COMMEMORATION OF THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE END OF WORLD WAR II SHIFTS INTO HIGH GEAR, THE SOVIETS SEEMS TO BE GIVING A FEW MORE NODS TO WESTERN WAR EFFORTS, PARTY SECRETARY AND POLITBURO MEMBER KIRILENKO, SPEAKING IN PRAGUE, MADE A GENERAL REFERENCE TO "ALL THE PARTICIPANTS IN THE ANTI-HITLER COLATION" (PRAVDA, MAY 7). PARTY SECRETARY USTINOV, IN ULAN BATOR, WENT FURTHER--NAMING THE U.S., BRITAIN, AND FRANCE AS PARTICIPANTS IN THE COALITION (PRAVDA, SAME ISSUE). AND PRAVDA MAY 7 ALSO GAVE FULL COVERAGE TO GOVERNOR HARRIMAN'S ARRIVAL AND TO THE REFERENCES IN HIS PREPARED STATEMENT TO U.S. HELP TO THE RED ARMY AND THE SOVIET PEOPLE.

2. DISTORTIONS, OF COURSE, CONTINUE. FOR EXAMPLE, KIRILENKO NOTED THAT FOLLOWING MUNICH ONLY THE USSR DECLARED ITS READINESS TO DEFEND CZECHOSLOVAKIA, BUT NATURALLY HE IGNORED THE MOLOTOV-RIBBENTROP PACT THAT FOLLOWED. AND THE TASS ENGLISH WIRE MAY 5 CITED

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AMBASSADOR STOESSEL IN OPENING THE TECHNOLOGY FOR THE

AMERICAN HOME EXHIBIT IN BAKU AS "STRESSING" THAT THE
OPENING WAS ON THE EVE OF THE "30TH ANNIVERSARY OF
THE ROUTING OF FASCISM." (HIS ACTUAL REFERENCE WAS
SIMPLY TO THE JOINT VICTORY IN THE WAR.)
STOESSEL

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